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Urban District Council

*Annual Report*



OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1943

Together with the Summary of work  
of the Sanitary Inspector.

"West Cumberland Times,"  
Cockermouth

1944

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Cockermouth Urban District Council

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# COCKERMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

CLERK AND CHIEF  
FINANCIAL OFFICER:  
E. JENNINGS.

TELEPHONE 31

TOWN HALL,  
COCKERMOUTH

15th November 1941.

The Chief Medical Officer,  
Ministry of Health,  
Whitehall,  
London, S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith a copy of the  
Annual Report of the Medical Officer of  
Health for the year 1943.

Yours faithfully,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Jennings Clerk'.



## **Cockermouth Urban District Council**

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To the Chairman and Members of the  
Cockermouth Urban District Council.

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1943, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940, and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received July, 1944. Under instructions, considerable curtailment has again been effected.

During the year under review war-time duties and responsibilities have again been carried out loyally by members of the Council and its officials and many other workers.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**CHARLES A. MASON,**

Medical Officer of Health.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 2,062.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid 1943)	5,012
(see page 5)	5,012
Number of inhabited houses (end 1943) according to Rate Books,	1,587
Rateable Value	£24,244
Sum represented by Penny Rate (approx.)	£96.

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## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	81	45	36	} Birth Rate (R.G.)
} Legitimate	5	3	2	
} Illegitimate				17.1
Still Births	...	1	0	
				Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 11.4.

	Total	M	F.	
Deaths	61	34	27	Crude Death Rate (R.G.) 12.1 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

### Maternal Mortality :—

Deaths from puerperal causes (childbirth) :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	1	11.49
Other Puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total	1	11.49

### Infantile Mortality :—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	...	2
---------------------------------------	-----	---

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	23 (Approx).
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	23 Approx
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	11

# Cockermouth Urban District.

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## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, for the year 1943.

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The area of the district in statute acres (land and inland water) is 2,062.

### RAINFALL.

Records,\* taken at South Lodge, Cockermouth, which is 242 feet above sea level, 1943:—

1943	January	...	5.14	inches of rain fell on 21 days
	February	...	<b>4.23</b>	„ „ 18 „
	March	...	1.38	„ „ 11 „
	April	...	<b>2.67</b>	„ „ 17 „
	May	...	<b>3.73</b>	„ „ 14 „
	June	...	<b>3.44</b>	„ „ 19 „
	July	...	3.97	„ „ 14 „
	August	...	<b>7.53</b>	„ „ 27 „
	September	...	6.15	„ „ 23 „
	October	...	7.56	„ „ 23 „
	November	...	2.53	„ „ 22 „
	December	...	<b>2.67</b>	„ „ 19 „
			—	—
	Total	51.00	„ „ <b>207</b> „	—
		—	—	—

\*Kindly given by John Armstrong, Esq., South Lodge. He informs me, also, that his average for six years ending and including 1943 was 41.5 inches.

(Records taken at Cockermouth Castle for many years and shown in previous annual reports were discontinued in 1943).

### POPULATION.

For 1943 the figure given for the resident population of the district by the Registrar General is 5,012, on which the birth and death rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases are based. N.B.—Figures relating to non-civilians are excluded.

(The figure for 1942 was 5,220).

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

In the Cockermouth Urban District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' Area, the number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 60, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 84 of the population, as compared with 1 in 77 in 1942, 1 in 57 in 1941, 1 in 36 in 1940, 1 in 26 in 1939, and 1 in 23 in 1938.

11 persons were admitted to Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of 1 in 456 of the population. 1942—5 persons, and 1 in 1,044 of population.

### Comparisons with 1942 :—

	Out-door Relief.	Indoor Relief.
Cockermouth U.D.      1943      60      11 (1942)      67      5		

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### BIRTHS.

**Live Births.**—There were 86 Live Births (48 males and 38 females) registered as belonging to the district; of these 5 (3 males and 2 females) were illegitimate.

The net live birth rate was accordingly 17.1 per 1000 of the population, compared with 16.8 for the previous year.

### Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Birth Rates, 1943—Cumberland	...	17.4
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	17.2
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	17.6
England and Wales	...	16.5
Cockermouth Rural District	...	14.7
Cockermouth Urban District	...	17.1

The percentage of illegitimate live births was 5.8 as compared with 4.5 in 1942.

**Still Births.**—There was 1 still birth registered so that the still birth rate per 1000 of the population was .19, as compared with .57 for 1942. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.50).

The still birth rate per 1000 total live and still births was 11.4, as compared with 32.9 for 1942.

### DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered as belonging to Cockermouth was 61. This gives a crude death rate of 12.1 per 1000 of the population as compared with 13.0 for the previous year.

7  
CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1943

Causes of Death.	All Causes		
		Males	Females
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever .....	0	0	0
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	0	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever .....	0	0	0
4. Whooping-cough .....	0	0	0
5. Diphtheria .....	0	1	
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	1	1	
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	0	0	
8. Syphilitic diseases .....	0	0	
9. Influenza .....	0	0	
10. Measles .....	0	0	
11. Ac: Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis .....	0	0	
12. Ac: inf: encephalitis .....	0	0	
13. Cancer of b: cav: and oesoph: (M.) Uterus (F.)	0	1	
14. .. stomach and duodenum .....	0	1	
15. .. breast .....	0	0	
16. .. all other sites .....	5	4	
17. Diabetes .....	0	0	
18. Intra-cran. vasc: lesions .....	4	3	
19. Heart Dis: .....	7	3	
20. Other Dis: of circulatory system .....	0	0	
21. Bronchitis .....	1	0	
22. Pneumonia (all forms) .....	3	2	
23. Other Respiratory Diseases .....	0	0	
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum .....	1	0	
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years .....	0	0	
26. Appendicitis .....	0	1	
27. Other Digestive Diseases .....	1	2	
28. Nephritis .....	2	1	
29. Puerperal and post-abort: sepsis .....	0	1	
30. Other Maternal Causes .....	0	0	
31. Premature Birth .....	0	0	
32. Congen: malform: birth inj: infant dis. ....	0	1	
33. Suicide .....	0	0	
34. Road Traffic acc: .....	1	0	
35. Other violent causes .....	2	0	
36. All other causes .....	6	5	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total ...		1	1
Legitimate ...	...	1	1
Illegitimate ...	...	—	—
LIVE BIRTHS }	Total ...	M	F
	Legitimate ...	48	38
	Illegitimate ...	3	2
STILL BIRTHS }	Total ...	—	1
	Legitimate ...	—	1
	Illegitimate ...	—	—

An adjusting or Area Comparability Factor has not been provided by the Registrar General for 1943, so the adjusted death rate cannot be given.

Comparisons of crude death rates are shewn below:—

	Crude
Death Rates, 1943—Cumberland	12.3
Rural Districts of Cumberland	12.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12.4
England and Wales	12.1
Cockermouth Rural District	11.8
Cockermouth Urban District	12.1

For Causes of death during the year see table on page 7

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 2 deaths (both legitimate) among Infants under one year of age giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 23.2 per 1000 births as compared with 45.4 for 1942.

No death occurring among illegitimate infants, the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate for 1943 was therefore nil per 1000 illegitimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of 23.4 per 1000 legitimate births. These latter rates were respectively nil and 47.6 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1943:—

Cumberland	...	...	48
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	...	48
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	...	48
England and Wales	...	...	49
Cockermouth Rural District			44
Cockermouth Urban District			23

Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age:—

Cause of Death	under 1 wk.	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 wks	1—3 mths.	3—6 mths.	6—9 mths.	9—12 mths.	Total under 1 yr.
Congenital Malformation				1				1
remature Birth with								
Acute Gastritis				1	1			1

### SENILE DEATH RATE.

30 persons had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile death rate of 49.1 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 50.0 for 1942.

8 (6m 2f)	occurred among persons between the ages of 65 and 70 years
6 (4m 2f)	” ” ” 70 and 75 years
6 (4m 2f)	” ” ” 75 and 80 years
5 (4m. 1f)	” ” ” 80 and 85 years
3 (2m 1f)	” ” ” 85 and 90 years
2 (f)	died at 90 and 91 years of age

## INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year there were four inquests (3 of which were held within the district).

A Coroner's certificate was received in respect of one case where post-mortem examination had been made but no inquest held.

Three deaths were uncertified.

**Violence.**—The death rate due to Violence (All Forms) was 0.59 per 1000 of the population in the Cockermouth Urban District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accident, Other Violence and the Total Violence deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates of each per 1000 of the population:—

	Suicide		Road Traffic Accidents		Other Violence		Total Violence	
	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942
Deaths	nil	nil	1	nil	2	4	3	4
% of all causes	nil	nil	1.63	nil	3.27	5.88	4.91	5.88
D.R. per 1000 popn.	nil	nil	.19	nil	.39	.76	.59	.76

The deaths from Violence in 1943 include 1 due to being knocked down by a road vehicle, 1 drowning (acc.) and 1 accidental fracture of femur.

## CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 11 cases, as follows:—

System	Prinary Organ	Males	Females	Years old
Alimentary	Oesophagus		1	54
	Stomach		1	53
	Colon	1	3	61, 62, 66, 76
Reproductive	Rectum	1		71
	Uterus		1	47
Osseous	Maxillary	1		75
Hepatic	Liver		1	81
Uncertain	Cephalic	1		5

This number corresponds to a cancer death rate of 2.19 per 1000 of the population as compared with 2.8 in 1942.

Approximately out of every 6 deaths of persons in this district 1 was attributed to cancer. (1942—1 in 5).

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Vide also pages 17 and 18.

There were 2 deaths due to Tuberculosis:—

	Males.	Female.
Respiratory System	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	0	0

Both were of notified cases in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of .39 per 1000 of the population, as compared with three deaths and a rate of .57 for 1942.

The "Consumption" (i.e. Pulmonary Tuberculosis) Death rate is 0.39 per 1000 of the population also, as compared with last year's figure of 0.38 (two deaths).

## General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Part-time Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Wm. Nicholls, M.I.M. and C.E., A.R. San. I., who is also the Surveyor and Water Engineer.

Mr. James S. Bowman was Clerk in the Surveyor's office, and assisted in the duties of the department.

### LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with investigations of certain cases of illness during the year, 1943 :—

Material	Test applied for—	Result : Pos. Neg	
		Pos.	Neg
Throat or nose swabs	Diphtheria	1	17
...	Haemolytic Streptococci	6	15
Sputum	Tuberculosis	1	8
Urine	"	0	1
Faeces	Typhoid Group	0	1
"	Dysentery	0	1
Blood	Typhoid Group (Widal)	0	1

Other particulars under Provision of Health Services remain as detailed in my 1930 and subsequent reports.

## Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The amount of Crummock Water used by Cockermouth Urban District during the year under review was 93,742,000 gallons. (This, of course, includes the quantity used for trade purposes).

The consumption of water per head of the population using the water worked out as approximately 48 gallons a day.

There were no extensions of water mains during the year.

The reservoir on the Moor was cleaned out in April.

The Secondary School reservoir was cleaned out in May.

During the year 500 yards of mains were scraped.

Two booster pumps were installed in an outhouse belonging to the Cemetery in April; since then the supply of the Secondary School has been much improved.

The balancing tank at the Secondary School has had a concrete cover placed over it and a wire fence round it to prevent contamination.

There are still some complaints of shortage of water in the higher parts of the town due to poor pressure in the water mains.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewage effluent from the Outfall Works remained satisfactory. Owing to transport difficulties market gardeners were unable to remove dried sludge for use on their land.

**Sewer Extensions.**—Nil during 1943.

## SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The method of scavenging and removal of refuse proceeds as formerly; collection is bi-weekly.

In the Goat area night soil is still removed by the Council from a few houses (all but one condemned).

**Salvage of Waste Paper.**—During the year 57 tons were baled and despatched to Paper Mills (1942—88 tons).

The Tarn Close refuse tip is still in use and the method of controlled tipping employed there has continued to be satisfactory. The trouble of paper blowing about on the tip has been non-existent since the salvage of waste paper began.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The Sanitary Inspection of the district is undertaken by Mr. W. Nicholls, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor to the Council. His friendly and ever willing co-operation is much appreciated, and I here record my indebtedness to him for his assistance in the making of this report at the end of which will be found his Summary of Work done—in accordance with Article 10 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in Cockermouth Urban District at the end of 1943 68 persons remained on the register (included in which were 14 relating to bakehouses) and no serious defects were noted by the Sanitary Inspector who made 45 visits in all:

Premises.	Number	Inspec- tions.	Defects Found	Written Notices.	Defects Remedied	Prose- cutions
Factories with mechanical power	15	20	0	0	0	—
Factories without do	53	25	0	0	0	—
Other Premises under Act						
<b>Totals</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>—</b>

**OFFENSIVE TRADES.**—The firm of Blood Driers whose licence expired on 1st May, 1943, again applied to the Council for a renewal and this was granted for another twelve months.

There is still the Knacker and Fellmonger establishment in Waste Lane and visits of inspection continue to be made to it, as heretofore.

### SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No special action under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, was taken.

### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspector co-operates with officials of the County Council. Poison is available at the Health Department Offices at the Town Hall free of charge. The refuse tip continued to be periodically baited with rat poison, and gassing was also carried out.

There continued a steady demand for rat poison.

## Housing.

The Housing shortage continues to be acute.

Condemned houses allowed to become temporarily occupied under the Defence (General) Regulations, 1934, were as follows : -

(a) 3 houses by agricultural workers.

(b) 5 houses by persons whose homes had been destroyed by enemy action.

(Note.—(a) and (b) are the same as stated in my last annual report. In addition one house was occupied without permission).

No new houses were built in Cockermouth in 1943.

No houses were reconditioned under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

## Housing Appendix.

In accordance with Circular 1961 Ministry of Health, 16th Feb., 1940.

### STATISTICS.

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts .....	80
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	130
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .....	0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (1939 figure given) ...	52
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	41

1. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	4
2. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	o
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	o
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	o
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	o
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—	o
3. Housing Act, 1936, Part iv.,—Overcrowding:— (figure not available)	

Owing to war conditions the tendency for an increase in overcrowding—legal or moral—remains.

Owing to shortage of labour and materials, high costs, and various restrictions, the position regarding house repair work remains difficult.

## FOOD.

### MILK SUPPLY.

There were 7 registered milk-sellers whose premises were within the Urban District, including 4 producers and retailers, 2 producer wholesalers, and 1 retail purveyor only. Inspections are made periodically and endeavour is made to get improvements carried out to dairy premises where necessary.

A large quantity of the town's milk supply is retailed by producers and retailers whose premises are situated in the surrounding Rural District. There were 9 of such producers and retailers during 1943.

The following table gives the result of 33 samples of milk retailed in the town and taken by the Sanitary Inspector, and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle.

Of the above 33 samples, 19 were satisfactory and 14 unsatisfactory in relation to dirt contamination, as follows:—

	Satisfactory according to Accredited Standard.	Unsatisfactory according to Accredited Standard.	Total
Samples produced in Urban District	9	4	13
,,    ,,    outside    ,,	10	10	20
	—	—	—
	19	14	33

The 14 unsatisfactory samples comprised:—

6 failing the Methylene Blue Reduction test only (3 being borderline cases);

Nil failing B. Coli test only (i.e. showing B. Coli in 2 or 3 tubes out of 3, and

8 failing Combined tests.

One sample was found to contain tubercle bacilli—this was milk from the Rural District.

Where results are unsatisfactory as to cleanliness endeavour is made to secure improvement. On a sample of milk being reported as tubercular, investigation is made by officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. I am indebted to Mr. John Reid, Divisional Inspector of that Authority, for the "Nil" return of particulars of animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, from premises registered in the Cockermouth Urban District during the year 1943:—

Total number of Animals Slaughtered	...	0
Cows in Milk	...	0
Other Cows or Heifers	...	0
Other Bovine	...	0
Types of Disease found at Post-mortem—		
Tuberculosis of Udder	...	0
Tuberculosis with Emaciation	...	0
Tuberculosis with chronic cough and showing definite clinical signs	...	0

This Council has continued to co-operate with the County Council in the latter's scheme for general milk sampling, including Designated, School, and Ungraded Milk.

The production and retailing of milk under "Special Designation" in the Cockermouth Urban District in 1943 was as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested.—John Cook, Fitz Road—Retailer.

Accredited.—Isaac Cook, Strawberry Howe—Producer and Retailer.

Wm. Cook, Annfield—Producer and Retailer.

J. Wright, Croft House, Brigham—Producer and Retailer.

J. Christopherson, Sneykycat—Producer and Retailer.

T. Taylor, Waterloo Farm—Producer (milk retailed by J. Cook).

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter-Houses.—The 2 Private Slaughter-Houses (both registered), and the Council's Public Abattoir have not been used as such since the Ministry of Food on January 14th, 1940, suspended all slaughtering other than in regional abattoirs—the Maryport abattoir serves this district under the scheme.

The Sanitary Inspector informs me that the following was condemned in the town during 1943:—132lbs. bacon, 5½lbs. cheese, 10lbs. tea, 23 tins milk, 110lbs. tinned meat, 12 tins fish, 9 tins vegetables, and 6 tins fruit, all voluntarily surrendered. A considerable quantity of food of various kinds was examined and found unsuitable for sale owing to damage and was returned to the suppliers through trade channels.

Bakehouses.—These are occasionally inspected. There are still 14 altogether, of which 5 are considered domestic in type. No serious defects are reported.

## Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified among civilians during 1943 in the Cockermouth Urban District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, was 43. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (vide post) the number was 11—the figure for 1942 was 23.

Two of these were notifications of Tuberculosis.

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1943.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases notified 1943 admitted to hospital	Deaths of notified cases
Scarlet Fever ...	7	6	0
(Ages—5-10 yrs, 1 ; 10-15 yrs, 3 ; 15-20 yrs, 2 ; 29 yrs, 1)			
Diphtheria ...	1	1	1
(Age 6 years)			
Whooping Cough ...	17	0	0
(Ages—Under 5 yrs, 8 ; 5-10 yrs, 6 ; 10-15 yrs, 3)			
Measles ...	15	0	0
(Ages—Under 5 yrs, 7 ; 5-10 yrs, 4 ; 10-15 yrs, 1 ; 15-20 yrs, 1 ; 20-30 yrs, 1 ; 30-40 yrs, 1)			
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	0
(Age 6 years)			
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary	{ Males 0 Females 0	0 (San.) 0 "	0 0
Non-Pulmonary	{ Males 1 Females 1	1 (Hosp) 0 "	0 0

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable diseases, 1943:

Disease	Jan	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	1		2			1				2		1	7
Measles	1	2			4		3				5		15
Diphtheria							1						1
Whooping Cough	...				12		5						17
Ac. Polio-Myelitis	...									1			1
Tuberculosis—													
Pulmonary													0
Other Forms					1		1						2

From notifications received it is deduced that one in every 456 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act and the Tuberculosis Regulations (Measles, Whooping Cough, and Chickenpox excluded). Last year's figures: 1 in 227.

Seven cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, scattered throughout the year. Six of them were removed to Hospital; all seven recovered. The case rate per 1000 of the population was therefore 1.3, and the death rate nil as compared with 3.2 and nil in 1942. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1943) were 3.01 and .00.

There was one Diphtheria notification (in July) and death ensued,\* so that the case and death rates per 1000 of the population were both .19 as compared with nil for both in 1942. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1943) were 0.88 and .03.

\* The child concerned had not been inoculated against the disease previously.

The campaign of immunisation against Diphtheria was continued as before. By the end of 1943 it was estimated that approximately 78 per cent. of children under 15 years of age had received the two immunising doses of A.P.T. (Alum precipitated toxoid) as sponsored by the Minister of Health. In splitting up the children immunised under 15 years into two age groups the figures work out as follows:—Under 5 years 51.8 per cent. and 5 to 15 years 91.9 per cent.

(NOTE.—Infants under 12 months are not inoculated).

I am grateful again for having had the co-operation of the local Medical Practitioners and Head Teachers, and particularly for that of the County Health Visitor, Miss Lawson, whose help has been invaluable.

There were no notifications of Typhoid (including Paratyphoid) Fever, Encephalitis Lethargica, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, or Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—No notification received. The case rate for Puerperal Pyrexia (including Puerperal Fever) is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate is:—Puerperal Pyrexia nil per 1000 total births (i.e. live and still births,) the same as in 1942. The corresponding rate (1943) for England and Wales was 11.68.

There was one Maternal death—corresponding to a Maternal Mortality Rate of 11.49 per 1000 total (live and still) births as compared with nil for 1942.

Pneumonia.—Although no notifications were received it may be mentioned that 5 deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) were registered.

Tuberculosis.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations no case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, but 2 of Other Forms of Tuberculosis (1 male and 1 female) were notified.

One (pulmonary female) case notified previous to 1943 was re-admitted to Sanatorium. One (male, non-pulmonary) case received treatment in hospital.

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases) during 1943:—

Age	1943	New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
45-55	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65-and upwards	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 9.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1943 was as follows:—

		Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	...	4	9	13
Non-pulmonary	...	3	6	9
All cases		—	—	—
		7	15	22

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.—Epidemics usually occur in conjunction with epidemics in the districts adjoining.

Influenza was more or less prevalent mainly during the winter months. The disease appeared mild in character on the whole in this district, and there were no deaths, making the Influenza death rate nil per 1000 of the population as compared with .19 (one death) in 1942. The rate (1943) for all England and Wales was .37.

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which became notifiable as from 1st November, 1939).—There were 15 cases of Measles (1 in Feb., 2 March, 4 May, 3 July, 5 Nov.) and 17 of Whooping Cough (12 May, 5 June) notified in 1943. No death occurred from either disease. The case rates and death rates were, therefore, per 1000 of the population—Measles 2.9 and nil, and Whooping Cough 3.3 and nil.

(England and Wales—Measles 9.88 and 0.02, and Whooping Cough 2.54 and 0.03).

SCHOOL CLOSURES.—During 1943 no elementary school in Cockermouth was closed on account of infectious disease.

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article xix. of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926.

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NUISANCES :

Nuisances reported to Council.	...	31
Intimatory Notices served after inspection		20
.. Notices complied with		20

Detailed Sanitary Work :

Choked drains, defective I.C.'s and gullies	...	31
Damp and Defective Roof, etc.	...	14
Additional W.C.'s	...	0
New Bathrooms	...	0
Housing Inspections	...	147
Factories Inspections	...	28
Dairies and Cowsheds Inspections	...	9
Visits to Knackery	...	6
Visits re Infectious Diseases (including Disinfections)	...	24

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One Plan was approved during 1943, for Private Garage,  
at 22, Brigham Road.

WM. NICHOLLS,

M.I.M. and C.E., A.R. San. I.,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.





